

# let's make the perfect sized box!

Here is a method to make lovely sturdy boxes in any size at all. I make my boxes with thick millboard and bookcloth, but you can use any sturdy cardboard and paper - perhaps vintage maps or wallpaper! You can make many boxes and line them up all together as drawer dividers. Or add  $3/8 - 1/4$ " to your box bottom size and make lids for your boxes, too.

## Supplies:

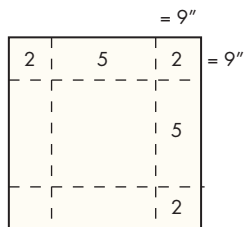
millboard (.08 size or similar)  
bookbinding cloth (or similar)  
masking tape  
glue stick (ross or staples brand)

## Tools:

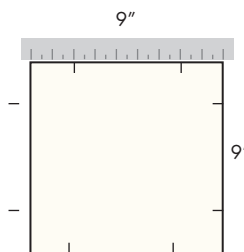
large cutting mat  
sharp new exacto knife  
metal ruler  
brayer  
bone folder (or similar)  
wooden chopstick (or similar)

## Project URL

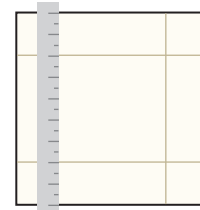
[http://lovelydesign.blogspot.com/2009/02/handmade\\_boxes.html](http://lovelydesign.blogspot.com/2009/02/handmade_boxes.html)



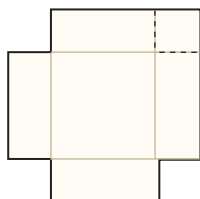
1. Here, a 5" box with 2" sides will be made, but you can make any size you want. Just add these measurements all together: bottom + side + side. In this case:  $5 + 2 + 2 = 9$ .



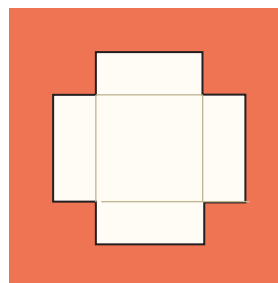
2. Measure and cut your size out onto millboard. Sharp new exacto blades and a large cutting mat are especially handy. Then, using a ruler, measure out and mark where the sides will fold up.



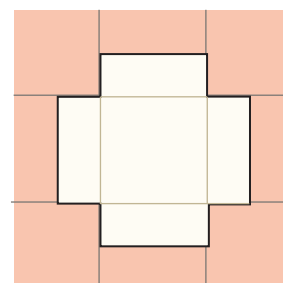
3. Using a metal ruler and blade, score the marked fold lines. Do not cut all the way through the board, but just enough to bend and fold the sides of the box up.



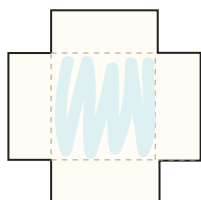
4. Once you have scored the 4 fold lines, Cut out and remove the 4 small squares left on the outer corners. Discard them.



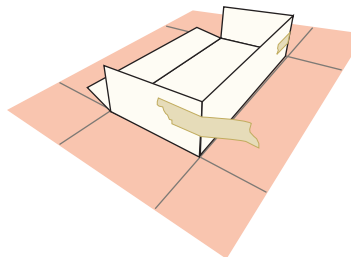
5. Measure and cut out your bookcloth, so that it is about 2" or so larger all the way around your box cut-out.



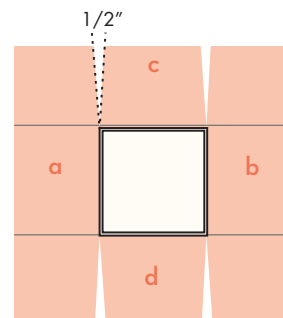
6. Flip over the bookcloth, and wrong side up, trace the centered box cut-out along the fold lines.



7. Turn over the box cut-out (sides should fold down) and glue up only the bottom of the box. Press the glued area down onto the center backside of the bookcloth. Roll it with a brayer to seal.



8. With the bottom firmly glued to the center bookcloth, turn up each of the sides of the box, and stick each corner together with a bit of masking tape to form the box.

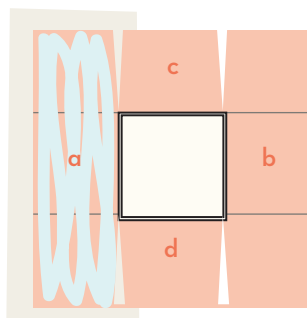


9. With the blade, cut a narrow triangle from each box corner to the outer edge of the bookcloth. the opening of each slice cut will be approximately  $1/2$ ".

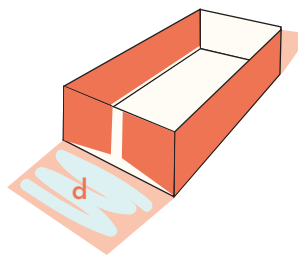


This pattern has been designed by Sharilyn Wright for lovelydesign. It is my hope that some of my work will inspire you to create and develop your own unique projects! If you have any feedback or have found errors, please contact me at:

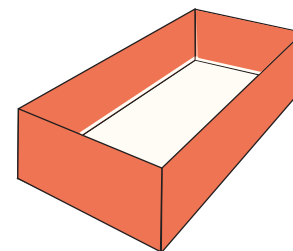
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10. With scrap paper behind, glue all of flap 'a', right up to its edges. Fold the glued flap up on the 3 box sides, rubbing to set with a bone folder. Fold over the flaps to the inside - don't worry if it wrinkles a bit on the inside corners. Rub well to set. Repeat with flap 'b'.



11. Glue flap 'd' right to the edges flap 'd', then fold up and over the box edge. Press and rub with the bone folder to set it well. Glue and press flap 'c' as well.



12. With the bone folder, rub over all the sides of the box to make sure that all is glued well. Use a chopstick to press in all the little corners. You can also line the bottom of the box with a piece of pretty paper or fabric. Done!